PROPOSAL 29

5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Establish mesh size restrictions for the conservation of king salmon in the Naknek-Kvichak and Ugashik Districts, as follows:

5 AAC 06.331 is amended to read:

. . .

(a)(1) gillnet mesh size may not exceed five and one-half inches during periods established by emergency order for the protection of king salmon; in the Naknek-Kvichak and Ugashik districts gillnet mesh size also may not exceed five and one-half inches from June 1 through July 22;

. . .

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? These gillnet mesh size restrictions have been implemented using emergency order authority every fishing season since the early 1990s in the Naknek-Kvichak District and since about 2008 in the Ugashik District. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game plans to continue to use these mesh size restrictions for the protection of king salmon. This would codify long standing management practice and eliminate the repetitive use of emergency orders to establish mesh size restrictions.